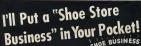


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SIX-GUN T'VE BREN ITCHN' TO GET AT YOU EVER SINE YOU INSULTED MARION WITH YOUR ATTENTIONS ARD ABOUT THE

































PEW MOMENTS LATER ...











BRUTE FORCE

In the narrow alley between the Bigtree (Mantona) Bank and the saddle-shap, Seth Cadge stirred.

"Here he comes now," he whispered.
Tall Farrow, his weaseley accomplice, paked
head cautiously forward and twisted it
like a snake's. From the direction of the Harton

like a snake's. From the direction of the Harton Road he saw on old mon come riding in, atop a mule. "Dinty Carse," he muttered. "So that's him."

his face twisted in scarn. "Cadge, if I'd've known you were crazy, I'd never . . ."

Seth Cadge smiled. He'd picked up with

Forrow a week aga in a soloon in Tucian.
They'd recognized each other as birds of prey at first glance. But it had token some talking to get Farrow to throw in with him. Far the job he had in mind two men were necessary—far murder as well as fortune.

Farrow was muttering again,
"Why he's nathin' but a ragged old bag of

bones and paar as sin, Laak at that six-shaater he's carryin'l li's sa ald it's a muzzle loader." Again Seth smiled. "They say everything ain't gold that glitters,"

he remarked. "Well, everything ragged ain't paar, either." Farraw snarted.

"Sheepdipt," he grunted, "I could buy and sell Carse for the price of a bag of tobacca with the mule thrown in." He turned to Cadge and sneered. "What you figure he's worth?" Seth watched Dinty Carse climb rheymati-

colly aff his mule and ga into Joe Talbat's general stare. "Befare I answer that, listen. Six weeks aga

Carse came here and took over that cabin on ald Baldypate Mauntain."
"The ane Texas Cal died In?," Forrow asked suspiciously.

Seth nadded in memory of the original old settler.
"Died of smallpax," he continued. "Everybady was ofraid to live there after that. But

when Carse came he didn't mind. By that time the cobin was anybady's property. He moved in. Up to a month ago he kept goin' by raisin' a few floo-bitten vegetables. But now . . .," "What's he warth?," Farraw demanded in a hard volce.

"You probably couldn't spend it if you had it," Seth said flatly.
"Prove it." Farrow said.

"Came an," Seth said.
Both men sidled up to the window of the

genaral store, Inside old Dinty Corse was orgung violently about the high price of canned goods. He protested he was a pare mon, Tall Farrow glonced wryly or Seth, but Set sold nothing. Finally Dinty came out of the store with his few purchases. Seth moved with widden force.

"Whugi," Dinty arunted as Seth collided with

him.
"No offense intended, pardner," Seth soid.

"Just slipped."
The old man snarled something unintelligible, maunted his mule and rade aff.

"Well, what did ya get?," Farrow demonded. "I sow you hoist his packet!" Solemnly Seth opened the palm of his hand.

For just one instant Tall Farrow caught a bright glitter. It was a coin.

"Gold!," Farrow whispered hoarsely. "Okay,

pol, I'm with you. But — but where'd he get is?"

Both men swung across the street toward

their horses, tied up in front of the soloon.

"The way I figure it," Sath soid, "Dinty's found a gold-strike. He knows if the news of a gold-strike gets out, there'll be so many cloim jumpers on Boldypote there wan't be room to turn oround."

Both men[®]got on their horses and contered away.

"But how does he turn all that gold into

coin?, "Errow caked.
"I found that out sory," Seth said. "Every
week he rides Into Motoro and sends a box off
realized express. That must be the gald-dust.
And I've seen him go into the bonk or Cornerville. Whoever buys the gold must deposit
money to his occount there. Thei's where he
gets his goldpieces. And Cornerville's for
enough away to keep down comment cround
here."

"What makes you think it's gold-dust and not gold-are?," Farrow asked as they jagged aut of town anto the Hortan Road. "Gold-are would be too bulky." Seth said.

"And the boxes he sends off aren" big." A puzzled frawn suddenly crossed his face. "And that's one thing that bothers me. It's also why I had to call you in as a partner, Tall. If it's gold-dust, I'll take two of us to find out where he gets it pravidin' he wan't talk. It'll take to

"Why?," Farraw asked.

Seth laaked at him narrawly, mysteriously.
"Because," he said, "gald-dust cames aut of

SIX-GUN HEROES gold." Tall said softly.

streams," He paused significantly, "And there isn't a stream within ten miles of that cable on Baldypatel"

Tall Farrow glanced sidewise at Seth Cadge. startled. For a moment he said nothing. Then he grunted: "What he plans to do is plain enough. Take enough dust out of the stream - wherever it is - until he has as much gold in coin as he wants, then sell out," He patted his left holster, "Well, I never stuck at murder."

"Ain't murder alone we got facin' us," Seth said laconically.

"No?," Farrow asked. "What else?" Seth Cadge's hand, which rested on the pommel of his saddle, trembled slightly. "Tarture." he said. "Dinty Carse is as stub-

born as his mule." Tall Farrow's lips drew into a thin line.

"I reckon somewhere 'round that cabin's a piece of iron - and some wood to make it red hotl," Farrow chuckled thinly. The sun was setting behind Baldyagte as

they approached it. Seth Cadge pointed through the purple aloaming to the two-room cabin set on a ridge about a quarter way up the flanks of the mountain. The mule was visible, corolled to

one side "We'll have to leave the horses here." Both men dismounted, tied their horses to

a stunted, dead tree and advanced up a trail toward the cabin.

Suddenly Seth stumbled over some metal obiect. It clattered over rocks a few feet. They froze instantly, but no interruption came. Seth bent down and picked up the object. It was a tin pie pan. "Look," he said hoarsely, dabbling his

fingers in the bottom and holding them up. They gleamed in the last light with the sheen of pure gold, "Gold dust! Panned out!" He glanced around puzzled, "But where?" "We'll find out inside," Farrow said bluntly.

They reached the front door, ranged themselves on each side, Then, with a kick, Seth burst it open. All four guns drawn, they sprang through the aperture.

"What the . . . I" Old Dinty Carse, startled as he sat musing in a chair, came quickly to his feet. His eyes worked in fear, "You two

gold -- in death. lobos gitl" "Not until we know where you get your The End

nothing.

The names and addresses of the publisher, office, Managing older, and braining

The old man's lips jerked violently, He saw the death-light in their eyes. With a gasp he moved one step back, as though in terror. A second later he dropped, one hand clawing madly for the old muzzle-loader in his holster. Three guns roared,

"You blasted fooll." Seth Cadge velled as Dinty Carse staggered back, bullet holes through his head and heart, upsetting a kero-

sene lamp and a container of fuel that solashed on the floor, "What did you kill him for? Now how we gonna . . .?" The word died on his lips. He saw Tall Farrow sink in agony to the floor, his wind-pipe severed

Around Seth hot flames sprang up. He jumped to the lone piece of furniture in the room beside the chair and cot - a small bureau. Quickly he riffled through the draws, Nothing there. No map. The aleam of gold hit his eye. He stuffed the pile of gold pieces into his pockets, then turned to the corpse of Dinty Carse. Rapidly, his hands singeing, he emptied all Dinty's pockets. With the exception of a couple of gold pieces, they were empty.

With an exclamation of despair he sprang back out of reach of the flames. The door to the other room caught his eye, It would be a convenient way out before the house burned down. Perhaps in there he'd find a man showing where Dinty's gold stream was located. His head turned for a last look at the dead bodies. Then he opened the door and catapulted through, Suddenly, beneath him was

He hurtled downward, screaming, A final cry of agony jolted from him as he hit bottom in water, his left leg cracking against a pipe. He tried to move, failed and sank deeper in the water. Now he knew where the gold had been panned from - the old well over which the house had been built. Dinty had finally noticed the tiny gold grains in the water, dug through the floor, enlarged the well and slowly panned out the gold from the water. The water in the well forced its way through

Seth Cadge's clenched teeth. Against his tonque he could feel the tiny, gritty metallic grains. His fading consciousness felt one last touch of irony. Now he'd have a belly-full of

Swore in and related before we this SWA day of September, 1988.

SIX-GUN HEROES ARUE























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WHEN CAYOTES LIKE YOU TAKE THE LAW INTO THER WIN MANOS, THEN 17'S TIME TO PUT YEM BEHIND BAR WE'RE TAKING YOU TO THE SHERIFF THEN AFTER TH

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TO YOU ONCE, SLAGE
HAM,
I'M STRYING TO FINISH
BEST DIED TONIGHT BECAUSE
OF YOUR OPDERS! THE
MEXT TIME ANYTHING
HAPPENS, I'LL ARREST
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TEXELITEE : WANTED: DEAD OR ALIVE?





















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